



Module Specification

Strategic Project (Accounting and Finance)

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Part 1: Information

Module title: Strategic Project (Accounting and Finance)

Module code: UMADQG-30-3

Level: Level 6

For implementation from: 2023-24

UWE credit rating: 30

ECTS credit rating: 15

Faculty: Faculty of Business & Law

Department: FBL Dept of Accounting Economics & Finance

Partner institutions: None

Delivery locations: Not in use for Modules

Field: Accounting and Finance

Module type: Module

Pre-requisites: None

Excluded combinations: None

Co-requisites: None

Continuing professional development: No

Professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements: None

Part 2: Description

Overview: It is a final year 30-credit dissertation module designed as an independent project module. Students will produce a substantial piece of writing based on their research into 'any' well-defined issue within the accounting and finance subject discipline. Initially, students will submit a research topic to the module team that will allocate them a research supervisor based on the submitted topic. Students will prepare a research proposal after discussing their research ideas

with the allocated supervisor. The supervisor will support them in their independent research till the completion of it. The module team will run a number of lectures and workshops to facilitate the process of undertaking the research and writing up the project report. The taught elements of this module are not assessed, they are provided as part of the support for students in doing their research project.

Features: This is different from the other modules as there will be taught units but mainly students will be working independently most of the time with support from an allocated supervisor.

Educational aims: The module aims to combine elements of Strategic Management and Accounting and Finance research methods to enable students to undertake original research in an area of their choice.

The project will involve the investigation of a business issue and will be based on a research question arising out of student experience or knowledge of business acquired either during a formally approved placement year or other work-related opportunities during the course of study. Students, however, may opt to research a topic that is of particular interest to them without necessarily relating to current/past employment.

The research dissertation will be expected to include clear and detailed proposals relating to strategy development based on student findings. In other words, the research dissertation is envisaged to be a hybrid between an academic dissertation, where students identify a phenomenon in Accounting and Finance they would like to study empirically, and a business report, where students will be asked to relate their findings to long-term business strategy via feasible recommendations.

Although the strategic research project involves self-directed private study supported by supervision, there will be a taught unit within the module, involving primarily lectorials and workshops facilitated by the module team. These sessions will enable students to critically discuss and debate contemporary issues in Accounting and Finance and relate them to organisational strategy with the purpose of informing their own research projects. Also, these sessions will provide students with support regarding the various stages of their research journey, e.g. planning and structuring

the dissertation, writing, editing and reviewing research, among others.

It is envisaged that support related to the actual research project will be provided by the supervisors. Nevertheless, the module teaching team may offer targeted group sessions on specific areas, e.g. research methodologies, should the need arise to support students with the empirical part of their dissertations.

Outline syllabus: Students will be introduced to practical aspects of research. The focus of the taught unit will be on providing practical guidance about developing a research proposal, conducting a literature review, collecting primary/secondary data, performing quantitative/qualitative analysis and academic writing.

Part 3: Teaching and learning methods

Teaching and learning methods: A range of learning and teaching methods will be used in this module. Initially, students will attend lectorial and tutorial sessions in which they will practice their research skills. Later on, they will be allocated to supervisors. During this time, they will use various databases to retrieve research articles, learn about the use of databases like Bloomberg, and learn about the data analysis tools like Stata. The module team will provide multiple materials in the form of articles, notes, lecture slides, books and video recordings.

Module Learning outcomes: On successful completion of this module students will achieve the following learning outcomes.

MO1 Discuss, critique and apply knowledge of enquiry and research strategies, methodologies and analytical techniques

MO2 Demonstrate detailed knowledge of a business topic including the literature published in the area, its underlying theories and associated assumptions

MO3 Research independently, including the ability to identify and define research opportunities and plan, timetable and execute a realistic research design

MO4 Identify and develop the links between organisational strategy and chosen research topic and formulate feasible and practical strategic recommendations informed by empirical findings

Hours to be allocated: 300

Contact hours:

Independent study/self-guided study = 270 hours

Face-to-face learning = 30 hours

Total = 300

Reading list: The reading list for this module can be accessed at readinglists.uwe.ac.uk via the following link

Part 4: Assessment

Assessment strategy: Assessment Strategy

The assessment methods are chosen to provide formative and summative feedback and to enable the students to demonstrate they have achieved the learning outcomes of the module.

In terms of formative assessment, module facilitators will be able to provide real-time feedback and guide students throughout the module and specifically during the timetabled contact hours. In addition, ongoing support will be provided by the academic project supervisors to ensure students' progression of their research plans to completion.

Assessment Task 1 – Research Proposal(1,500 words, 15%)

The proposal is both formative and summative, aimed at creating a milestone in progress, and providing further feedback opportunities. The supervisors will help students to refine the ideas presented in this proposal.

Assessment Task 2 - Final Project (6,000 words, 85%)

The final project demonstrates students' research and analytical skills and the ability

to relate their research findings to the wider strategy of an organisation through practical strategic recommendations. Students are expected to complete this work in an interactive environment where they should work in close interaction with their supervisors.

Assessment components:**Project (First Sit)**

Description: Research Proposal

Student will submit a research proposal for their final project. This project will be discussed with the allocated supervisor before submission.

Weighting: 15 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

Final Project (First Sit)

Description: Complete Research Report of 6,000 words

Weighting: 85 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Project (Resit)

Description: Research Proposal resubmission

Weighting: 15 %

Final assessment: No

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO2, MO3

Final Project (Resit)

Description: Research project (max 6,000 words)

Weighting: 85 %

Final assessment: Yes

Group work: No

Learning outcomes tested: MO1, MO2, MO3, MO4

Part 5: Contributes towards

This module contributes towards the following programmes of study:

Business Management with Accounting and Finance {Top-Up}[Sep][FT][Frenchay][2yrs] BA (Hons) 2022-23

Accounting and Finance [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Accounting and Management [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] - Withdrawn BA (Hons) 2021-22

Business Management with Accounting and Finance {Top-Up}[Sep][SW][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Accounting and Business Management [Sep][FT][Frenchay][3yrs] BA (Hons) 2021-22

Accounting and Finance {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

Accounting and Management [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Accounting and Finance [Sep][SW][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Accounting and Management {Foundation} [Sep][FT][Frenchay][4yrs] BA (Hons) 2020-21

Accounting and Management {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20

Accounting and Finance {Foundation} [Sep][SW][Frenchay][5yrs] BA (Hons) 2019-20